

Violation of Bonded Labour Abolition System Act

4547. SHRI CHITTA BASU: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether attention of the Government has been drawn to an indepth study by a Group of Planning Commission which has reported about the gross violation of Bonded Labour System Abolition Act in Madhya Pradesh, Bihar and Orissa; and

(b) if so, the steps the Government propose to take in this regard?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI PABAN SINGH GHATOWAR): (a) and (b). The Working Group on Development and Welfare of Scheduled Castes during Eighth Five Year Plan has in their report have made some observations regarding violation of Bonded Labour System (Abolition) Act, 1976 by some State. Under the Bonded Labour System (Abolition) Act, 1976, the responsibility for identification, release and rehabilitation of bonded labourers lies with the State Government concerned. The State Governments have been requested to implement the provisions of the Act more vigorously. The progress is being monitored through monthly progress reports.

KVIC Sponsored Agro based Industries In Andhra Pradesh

4548. PROF. UMMAREDDY VENKATESWARLU: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Khadi and Village Industries Commission has been extending financial assistance to rural agro-based industries in Andhra Pradesh;

(b) if so, the details of the industries sponsored during the last three years; and

(c) the amount advanced by KVIC to these industries and whether the loan recovery was as per schedule?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (PROF. P. J. KURIEN): (a) to (c). KVIC is extending financial assistance to rural agro-based industries in the country including Andhra Pradesh. During the last three years, the following agro-based industries under the purview of Khadi and Village Industries Commission in Andhra Pradesh have been sponsored:—

1. Beekeeping,
2. Ghani Oil
3. Cane Gur and Khandsari,
4. Palmgur,
5. Processing of cereals & Pulses Industry,
6. Collection of Forest Plants & Fruits,
7. Fruits & vegetable processing,
8. Fibre other than coir.

During 1990-91 the funds disbursed by KVIC for the above industries in Andhra Pradesh were of the order of Rs. 404.30 lakhs.

Underground Coalfield Fire Fighting Operation

4549. SHRI PRATAPRAO B. BHONSLE: Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

(a) whether World Bank has been requested to finance underground coal field